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Opinions
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Undergraduate Student Government Association (USGA) held their election party on April 12 to reveal the representatives for the 2018-2019 academic year. Candidates this year either ran with the Poseidon party or as independents and several candidates ran unopposed.

The event was a celebration for students before the announcement of the new USGA. There was food, performances and giveaways throughout the night.

Tyrianna Richards, sophomore english major, was the only independent to win a position. She said she enjoyed celebrating her new role as upperclassmen senator watching the performances of the fire and hula dancers.

“The party was way crazier than I expected, and I had a lot of fun. I’m very grateful for being elected,” said Richards.

Alex Reggiani, junior accounting major, ran with the Poseidon party for the position of president. She said she still feels honored to have the chance to be a part of USGA despite not having a campaign opponent.

Reggiani has been on USGA for three years and played a part in the rewriting of the USGA constitution in the fall and in the winter, which included adding the new positions dedicated to academics and community engagement and separating the Inter Organization Council (IOC) from USGA.

“This has really been my passion over the past three years and I’m excited about the changes we made,” said Reggiani. “The majority of our time will be focused on academic concerns and other student concerns.”

Bengals owner Mike Brown should probably check himself before he gets so picky with his players.

By: Jenna Kopec
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Are our students given the same shot in the public education system?

She plans on following through on changes to Shark Dining, making sure the academic senators are successful and increasing school spirit.

The newly elected USGA will begin their term in May.

By: Madelyn Rinka
News Editor

Environmental Art Festival to be held at the MEEC

On Saturday, April 21, NSU’s Halmos College of Natural Sciences and Oceanography will host an Environmental Art Festival in collaboration with the Marine Environmental Education Center (MEEC), Free Our Seas, Broward County Parks and Recreation and the City of Hollywood, Florida. The event will be held at The Carpenter House from 12-5 p.m.

Beforehand, the Surfrider Chapter of Broward County will sponsor a beach cleanup, outside of The Carpenter House. The art showcased will be inspired by nature and the ocean, and will take the form of sculptures, sand art, murals and more.

In addition, attendees can look forward to live music performances, activities and games for children, Captain the sea turtle feedings, hands-on art projects and food from a variety of vendors.

“It’s harnessing the power of art and bringing awareness to the pollution that’s happening to our ocean, and our waterways and our beaches, (caused) by continuing the use of single-use plastics,” said Manon Weise, co-chair for the festival. “That’s what inspired us to do this festival, because all of our beaches were covered with trash, plastic bottles, plastic bags, everywhere.”

Weise explained that some of the art pieces are not only inspired by the environment, but also utilize pieces of what would have been pollution in their creation. For example, one piece that will be on display is a flip-flop grouper, a sculpture of a fish that has been created out of around 200 flip-flops that were found on Hollywood beach. Other artworks utilize plastics, buckets, straws and other trash that has been picked up on beach clean ups. Students in the community have submitted art to be shown as well.

The inaugural event is an attempt to educate the public and spread awareness about marine debris and how we can all do our part to help the environment. For example, attendees are encouraged to bring reusable water bottles to the event that can be filled there, so to reduce the footprint of the festival itself. Vendors at the event will also refrain from using plastics in favor of more sustainable alternatives.

“The idea behind it is really to highlight a lot of the artists and groups who are featuring recycled and upcycled art, and how we can help the environment by reducing our waste,” explained Amy Hupp, caretaker and program coordinator at MEEC.

Admission to the event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact manon.freeourseas@gmail.com or Elaine.Fiore@ browardschools.com, or visit artscalendar.com/event/free-seas-beyond-environmental-art-festival.

By: Charity Angel Dawson
News Editor

Get the inside scoop on “Waitress” with Charity Angel Dawson

SPOTLIGHT: environmental art festival

Many of the featured pieces at the Environmental Art Festival are made from debris and trash found from beach clean-ups.

Get the inside scoop on “Waitress” with Charity Angel Dawson

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The Office of Student Life and Civic Engagement (SLCE) will host its final service events of the Winter 2018 semester with a concluding installment of a “Service in the City” event on April 19, and an “Earth Day of Service” scheduled to take place on April 22.

According to Andrea Dobo, graduate assistant for SLCE, both of the events were created to provide students with opportunities to serve their South Florida community.

“Students have the ability to step out of their comfort zones and see a perspective of Fort Lauderdale that they may not have had before,” said Sue Garcia, general merchandise manager for the Shark Store. “[Students can also] meet reps for the alumni association, debt management, graduate admissions and present their image to the person afterwards. In addition, graduating students will be able to get more information about joining the alumni association by meeting attending reps.

“It is important to stay connected with the alumni association because we provide many benefits and services for our alumni,” said Patricia Rameau, coordinator of the alumni relations department. “We provide job resources for them through our platform called NSU Connect, which definitely [for graduates] gateway to their professional career.”

NSU Connect is a way for graduates to reconnect with former classmates, establish a network and utilize NSU’s trusted environment to create professional connections. According to Rameau, this is also an opportunity to meet students wear a bathing suit under their clothing.

Dobo adds that transportation will be provided, though students are welcome to meet at the location. Konicki mentioned that those who wish to utilize the provided transportation should meet SLCE representatives by the flagpole in front of the Horvitz Administration building at 8:15 a.m. on April 22.

“Some students who want the opportunity don’t always know where to look when searching for service, so this [the events hosted by SLCE] helps them in terms of just wanting to go out and help,” said Dobo. “Since we provide transportation, it also helps students who may not want to drive or do not have a car to drive.”

“The overall goal is to help assist students with the education of social responsibility,” said Dobo. “Civic engagement is a topic that students don’t always have the best experience with, so as an office we [SLCE] try to provide these opportunities as much as we can for students.”

For more information about the events hosted by SLCE, email slce@nova.edu or call 954-262-7195.
Ashley Rizzotto works in the Office of Career Development with current undergraduate students, graduate students and alumni to ensure the confidence and success of those the meets with.

Feeling comfortable in your workplace can be instrumental or detrimental to your ability to be successful. The expression of your sexual identity — especially if you identify on the LGBTQIA+ spectrum — can sometimes bring about questions or concerns when writing a resume or conducting the job search. There are no right or wrong answers or rules, only what is right for you. Here is a starting point of strategies, ideas and tips to work through some of the challenges you might face as you navigate the process of finding your next job or internship.

Check out the company’s Corporate Equality Index

The Human Rights Campaign has developed the Corporate Equality Index (CEI) as a “tool to rate American businesses and consumers and amongst their consumers. Using this index is one of many ways to conduct research that will help in your decision-making process.

Ask questions during your interview

For times when you apply for jobs that are not featured in the CEI, the interview is a great time to advocate for what you need in the workplace. To figure out if they are an LGBTQIA+ friendly space, consider asking about diversity and inclusion initiatives within the organization. This questions can include: “Can you tell me about what diversity looks like here?” “What do you like about the culture?” and “How do you see the employer’s non-discrimination policy in action here?”

Interviews are a time that you should be yourself, testing the waters with the questions above can help determine what you want to share as you express your ability, motivation and fit for the job you are interviewing for.

Locations can matter

Along with assessing the workspace, paying attention to the geographic location can inform where the job is located is right for you. Research state and communities towards the LGBTQIA+ friendly within their organizations and amongst their consumers. Using this index is one of many ways to conduct research that will help in your decision-making process.

Crash diets won’t work

Crash dietary is arguably one of the most popular ways to lose weight. As the name suggest, these diets are restrictive eating patterns that “help” people lose a large amount of weight over a short amount of time before returning to your normal way of life. In the event that no one’s told you, that’s not necessarily the best idea.

First things first, most diets are crash diets

Crash diets are usually part of a bad — think the paleo diet — and according to Marilyn Gordon, registered dietitian nutritionist, most diets are some form of a crash diet or fast. “Most diets are fast in the sense that if it’s a ‘diet’ for most people, it has usually been a ‘start point and end point,” she said. “So it’s not really a lifestyle or a way of eating.”

The problem with diets? There are a few, but one of them is that your usually regain the weight after you end the restrictive diet. This leads to what Gordon referred to as a cycle of on-again, off-again dieting, sometimes called yo-yo dieting.

They pose dangers to your health

The most obvious risk when it comes to dieting is to your physical health. “Some people won’t even know that they have blood sugar regulation issues until they try one of those plans and then the next thing they know they’re feeling light-headed and dizzy,” said Gordon.

Although Gordon said that young people tend to be more resilient to the physical effects of these diets, there are still long term effects that can come from yo-yo dieting, namely low muscle and bone density. Restricting your caloric intake, especially during stressful times like midterm and finals week, can impact your performance both physically and cognitively. Your brain is just as dependent on what you eat as the rest of your body.

“From a nutrient perspective, these diets are obviously void of all the nutrients a body needs to be healthy,” Gordon said.

Crash diets, especially when done throughout your lifetime, can also pose dangers to your psychological health in terms of self-esteem and even eating disorders.

“The frequent restrictive eating and dieting can lead to things like true eating disorders,” Gordon explained. “And we never know who is the person that is going to be impacted in that way, so you almost don’t want to take the chance that it’s you.”

You have resources to make lifestyle changes

Gordon recommends making slow changes to your lifestyle. “Ideally, would be for students to assess their eating habits,” said Gordon. “To look for ways to improve [their diets].”

Crash this can be something as simple as changing a small eating habit, like reducing soda consumption, which is likely to last longer. She said students may have also made changes to their diet or exercise patterns once entering college without noticing it.

“Those little practices are more likely to become health behaviors that you’ll stick with,” she said. “Diet is severe and restrictive and that’s why they don’t work.”

Gordon also said that students can utilize the dieticians at the school, like herself, which is covered under the medical insurance provided by the university. Students would simply need to make an appointment with a physician at one of the student clinics and get a referral. These individuals can help you find a slow, measured approach that will work for your body.
Almost everyone wishes to see more of the world and try new experiences. Facing fear is one of the thrill of adventures abroad, it’s easy to understand why. Plenty of things can hold you back, however, whether it’s money, time or a number of other aspects. Even if you do have the budget and vacation days reserved, sometimes you can’t muster up that wanderlust in someone else to snag yourself a travel partner. But don’t let a lack of a buddy hold you back. With these tips, you’re sure to keep it safe — and reap the benefits — while flying solo.

Keep track of everything
If you’re hopping on a flight to your dream destination, try to keep it light as possible. A carry-on luggage of pack and one personal item, like a sone bag or backpack, should be more than enough space if you pack smart. If you limit yourself to just these two items, it will be much easier to maneuver your way around the airport and to your destination, according to Jessoe on a Journey. Having large, bulky bags to keep track of can lead to items getting stolen, slowing you down or just causing extra stress from bagging around bags in a foreign place for boxes.

Don’t stay just anywhere
Hotels or lodging can quickly become the greatest expense, especially if you’re travelling alone and you don’t have someone to split the cost with. Even if it will cost you a few bucks, don’t stay at a hotel with few or poor ratings. When you’re travelling solo, the last thing you need is to feel unsafe in the place that you’re staying. It should be your refugee after a long day, not something you dread going back to. According to Forbes, the more positive ratings you have the better, as it will help you feel less vulnerable in an unfamiliar place. This doesn’t mean you have to go to a five star, all-inclusive resort, but if the difference is $20 a night to stay in a room that’s bug-free, locked and in a safe neighborhood, it might be worth it.

Start your day early, and turn in early
Being alone in the dark in a foreign place is scary. You’re not familiar with the roads, people may be looking to take advantage of you and your vision is somewhat impaired. To remedy this, try to start your day early, as encouraged by Forbes. Rather than waking up at noon, get a head start to your adventures and begin your day in the early morning. This way, you’ll be able to pack in more sightseeing before the sun starts to set, and it gets a bit more dangerous to travel alone. If you do find yourself out late, be sure to know where your hotel is, have a plan to get back and avoid anything that could impair your judgement or make you an easy target for crime.

Read ahead
You’re not the first person to travel alone. Before you embarks on your adventure, do a quick search online to see if anyone has written a blog about their experience abroad in your destination of choice. There will likely be at least one, if not many, accounts of what others have done while travelling solo — read up on their trips, see what they did to help them feel safe and learn from their mistakes. Websites like AllSinglesTravel.com and SafeCheckIn.com are even dedicated to this. After all, experience is a great way to gain wisdom, even if that experience isn’t your own.

For many college students, summer is the perfect time to go back to your family, catch up with friends from home as well as catch up on some much-needed sleep. However, for others, doing all those things can be pretty easy and, if you want to keep them busy and active during the summer, there are several things you can do to make your summer more active and productive.

Apply for a summer internship
Summer internships are one of the best ways to explore your career options and get hands-on experience in your future field. Deadlines can be tricky for most of you and they should try and plan ahead of time if you really want one. However, since every field is different, deadlines to submit your application can vary.

Doing a summer internship will not only keep you busy, but help you learn more about the field you are interested in as well as provide a unique experience that will help you grow in many ways. Having a summer internship on your résumé can make you a more desirable applicant and a more experienced one, factors that are highly important for employers. According to Harvard Business Review, 39 percent of employers state that lack of experience causes hiring shortages. Having an internship will give you an advantage over those who don’t have experience.

Apply for a summer job
Having a job over summer may not sound appealing to some, but there are many advantages to having one. One of the most important benefits is that you’ll be making money. A few extra bucks won’t do harm and that way you can save for college, a trip you have been wanting to take or buy something you always wanted; the possibilities are endless.

Another big factor of having a summer job is the experience, especially if you work in customer service or sales industries. Even though your major or your goals may not be focused on that particular line of work, working its customer service or sales is a valuable experience that everyone should have at least once. You never know, it may provide a new perspective on how you see sales or customer service jobs.

Nevertheless, having experience and gaining those skills are highly valuable. According to an analysis of 2.3 million LinkedIn profiles for The Wall Street Journal, nearly 50 percent of employees who demonstrated stellar communication skills were hired over the course of a year. This suggests that employers do take into consideration those basic, but necessary, skills when looking for someone to hire.

Summertime is the time to keep being productive

About creating visions, goals, objectives and using the power of technology to communicate with young people around the world to achieve future goals.

At the conference, I was trained by Gordon Yoon, a graduate of UCLA who is a software engineer at Google Cloud. In my small group session, we were asked if we knew where we wanted to be in the next five years and whether we were prepared to fight for a cause to empower others. Many of us were clear about our academic career goals, but had not paid much attention to the thought of being change agents around the world until then.

At the closing session, I won a gift card for networking with everyone in the room. At the end of the experience, I took a speech to the audience by sharing that despite my fears of the unknown, I did not allow that to stop my decisions to travel for the conference. It is all about being determined to “travel the distance,” which is something more young emerging leaders must do in their quest to succeed.

Edwina Ward is a second-year doctoral graduate student majoring in Conflict Resolution Analysis Studies. She serves as the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Graduate Student Government Association President at NSU. In the community, she is the founder of Leaders Recognizing Leaders (LRL), a 501c3 nonprofit community organization dedicated to mentoring young people to become leaders and young diplomats through community service projects and global communications.

When I first saw the flyer online about the Global Leadership Organization (GLO), I was immediately interested. I began doing a little research, only to learn that the conference was outside of my state, and I had to ethereally fly over 3,000 miles from Fort Lauderdale to San Francisco, California, or take a flight. I chose to make the trip.

The day I arrived, I was super pumped about meeting everyone. The first meeting started at 8:00 a.m. with an opening session featuring Teddy Liaw, founder of GLO and CEO of multimillion-dollar Silicon Valley company, NexRep. Liaw shared his vision for starting the organization, which is to inspire aspiring future diplomats like us to become “social transformative leaders.”

Overall, the focus of the global leadership conference was based on people management, project management, meeting management, communication and public speaking. What made the conference most interesting was the added value of working together in small groups to discuss how we must be more strategic and analytical in the process of creating transformative social changes. Also, we talked about creating visions, goals, objectives and using the power of technology to communicate with young people around the world to achieve future goals.

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Student talent is something that should never be ignored, although it often is when it comes to the world of entertainment media. Especially within the music industry, the unrefined and exploratory sounds of student music projects often are dismissed as no more than cheap imitations of those industries’ musical inspirations. However, as four students on our very own campus are here to prove, student music projects can be much more than what the industry makers of them, Rico Raimont, Julian Glasthal, Rey Perez and their muse and inspiration Craig Sippin are all Razer’s Edge Shark Talent students at NSU. While each of them has their own musical experiences and agendas of their own, they have melded their camaraderie and musical abilities together to create their very first full-length album release as The Craig Show. “The Pilot Episode,” released on April 1, is a collection of eight tracks that highlights the personalities and individual talents of its collaborators. The record kicks off with “The Pitch,” a skit featuring a humorously dramatic and soulful opening monologue provided by Perez over the smooth, mysterious strumming of an acoustic guitar. He is judged by Sippin, playing the role of a skeptical record label representative with Glasthal and Raimont getting ready to convince him of the band’s talent. This skit does an effective job at setting the tone for the rest of the record, and the strum at the end of the track flows into the next.

“Crosshairs,” arguably the most well-known and heavily featured song on the record among the band’s peers, is a passionate approach to a love song that does an interesting job of bringing out Raimont’s vocals and the flair that the band presents in their instrumentals, making them recognizable and inviting while still retaining the expectations that come with each of them. The instrumental features a healthy blend of harmonic acoustic guitar and the pulsating heartbeat of the Latin percussion underlying it. The transition between Glasthal’s singing voice and rapping voice is unexpected but firing well and welcoming while the instrumental bridge features some funky saxophone fills in a nice touch. The choruses are warm and well mixed, lending to the overall emotional tone of the track. The track is later followed up by “Crosshairs – Reprise,” a much simpler, yet more evocative acoustic rendition of the track that rounds out the original concept on the album quite nicely. The band seems to be open about the musical inspirations that they take from their own experiences as evidenced by their tasteful cover of the late George Michael’s “Careless Whisper.” The instrumentation is immediately recognizable and inviting while still retaining the flair that the band presents in their instrumentals over the rest of the record. It is emotional, goosy and smooth. This track also does a great job of bringing out Raimont’s vocals and the emotion they can possess. Some of the vocal improvisations in his performance are firing and complement the flow of the track well.

The most interesting cut on the record, however, both sonically and thematically, is “Baby G.” The track subverts expectations by beginning very similarly to “Crosshairs” before launching into a high energy ballad about the titular Baby G driven forward by consistent guitar fills and the pulse of the drums. The saxophone comes back in full force with some aggressive and funky fills that come to a halt as the final third of the track transitions into a slow, methodical and more emotional tone that rounds out the cut.

“The Pilot Episode” is a great first effort put forward by the Shark Talent group that comprises The Craig Show. While nothing is perfect, and they have room for improvement, the record pulls forth their talents in a way that inspires and foreshadows their efforts to come. Sonically, the record is a great collection of diverse sounds and styles for budding artists and the songwriting, while simple, is catchy, rhythmic and full of emotion. In a sea of a newly emerging talent, this unassuming student album project is one that shines with potential and personality.

If there’s anything Logic, known best for his song “1-800-273-8255,” warns you to take away from his mixtape “Bobby Tarantino II,” it’s that a) he’s married, b) he smokes weed, c) he works hard and d) there’s a difference between “album Logic” and “mixtape Logic.” Okay, so he’s not exactly married anymore — he and his wife announced their separation less than two weeks after this mixtape was released on March 9 — but that’s beside the point.

The mixtape is a sequel to Logic’s, or Sir Robert Bryson Hall II’s, 2016 mixtape “Bobby Tarantino.” It starts off with the hilarious skit intro “Grandpa’s Space Ship” which features the characters Rick and Merty from the show “Rick & Morty” — go figure — discussing the differences between “album” and “mixtape” versions of Logic. Rick thinks that while album Logic focuses on “messages about how I can be whatever I want or... equality and everybody,” mixtape Logic is about “throwing stacks” and some “good ol’ ATL style rap.” Basically, Logic’s mix varies and he’s got different songs for different moods; Bobby Tarantino is the perfect combination between Logic’s feel-good songs of empowerment and the kind of rap that makes you want to “turn up,” as we kids say.

Much of Logic’s previous work is darker or inspirational, depending on the album. “Under Pressure” (2014) focuses on Logic’s dark past and childhood living with a drug-addicted mother and fickle father. Later albums like “The Incredible True Story” (2015) and “Everybody” (2017) focus on uplifting others and striving for equality. All of those albums are great, as they spread messages of positivity and/or emphasize overcoming adversity, but that doesn’t make “Bobby Tarantino” or “Bobby Tarantino II” any less great, as both mixtapes are Logic’s well-deserved pat on the back for his hard work, success and crazy flow. I mean, this guy can freestyle while solving a Rubik’s Cube; he deserves some bragging rights.

Some of his most lyrically impressive songs on the mixtape are “Indica Bud,” “Warm it Up,” “Wassup” and “44 More,” a follow-up to his one-verse, 44-bar song on his “Bobby Tarantino” mixtape appropriately named “44 Bars.” Logic released this song first, saying, “I want people to be like ‘The suicide guy raps?’” On this mixtape, indeed he does.

“Indica Bud,” which features Wiz Khalifa, is basically an ode to smoking pot, and is appropriately mellow while still being lyrically clever and demanding. “Wassup” featuring Big Sean is similarly masterful, as both Logic and Sean show off their lyrical prowess over a mellow beat. One of Logic’s biggest strengths is his ability to make you want to simultaneously bob your head and have an intense rap battle with your friends.

While Logic’s most mainstream work might paint him as humble, Bobby Tarantino “brings the facts,” as he says in his song “Vick.” Logic assures you throughout the mixtape in songs like “Overnight,” “Contra” and “State of Emergency” that his success is hard-won. The rapper’s ability to confidently acknowledge his skills and success while maintaining his mottos of “peace, love and positivity” is impressive. He avoids beef with other rappers and simply emphasizes his own talent as he raps about being the greatest alive.

Logic is cocky in this mixtape — as most rappers are — but not in an annoying way. He celebrates himself and his hard work, just as listeners celebrate themselves when they listen to it. I challenge anyone to listen to “Everyday” on his or her way to work and not feel empowered to kick some serious butt for the rest of the day.
Actress Charity Angélique Dawson dishes on her experiences playing Becky in ‘Waitress’

By: Michaela Greer
Co-Editor-in-Chief

What do lucky audiences get when an inventive all-female creative group partner with Tony Award winning director Diane Paulus and six-time Grammy award nominee Sara Bareilles to adapt a book written by celebrated Tony Award winning director Diane Paulus and six-time Grammy award nominee Sara Bareilles to adapt a book written by celebrated

Preparing for the perfect summer night out at the beach on a sunny summer afternoon. This is how you should enjoy your freedom while you’re at the beach...
OUT OF THE SHARKZONE

“Fittest woman on earth” wins gold medal at the Commonwealth Games

Despite the loss of a beloved cousin in a tragic car accident just two weeks ago, on April 6, 18-year-old Juan Jose Guerra of the Dominican Republic and part of NSU men’s golf team. He was born in 1997 and my dad started playing golf when I was 2 years old. He was the one who taught me the basics of the game when I was young. Now, I can picture myself doing anything else other than playing golf.

How is your relationship with your family?

“My family is very important to me. I love baseball and my dad is a great baseball player as well. But, if I didn’t play college golf, I feel like I’d be something like an entrepreneur or something of that sort. It’s really easy to fall into this, so it’s pretty hard to keep a balance. My freshman year, since I was new at this, I didn’t do a good job at it and I focused more on the sport and kind of let school go down a little, but I hope that I’m doing it better now. I’m trying my best and I think that is the right path of being a student-athlete. (Student-athletes) are required to do well in all three areas of their lives. You have to be a nice person, social, you have to do well in school as well as in your sport, and most people don’t have to do that. I think it’s an advantage and it’s also a disadvantage but at the end it’s worth it.”

What is your goal in life?

“I love them. I’ve been a part of three teams now at NSU. The first team I was in my freshman year to completely gone now. I’m the last guy standing from that team because I was the youngest guy. It was a really mature team and I was the youngest guy by a couple of years and I learned a lot from them. Then last year, we had a team that is very similar to the current one and with them, I was one of the most experienced guys on the team because I already spent a year of high school [in the U.S.], but it’s definitely different. We don’t have golf programs back in the Dominican Republic, we don’t have sports scholarships, we don’t have any of that, so I think I’m really privileged to be able to have this opportunity, and I love it. I love the course being right next to my house, that’s something that doesn’t happen back home. It’s definitely easier to play golf here than back home.”

What would you say is the most difficult thing for you as a student-athlete?

“As a student-athlete I think it’s just the balance between practice time and school time and doing both right as well as having a social life. It’s hard to balance all three because you can get carried away by school and then your sport side takes a toll or the other way around. It’s really easy to fall into this, so it’s pretty hard to keep a balance. My freshman year, since I was new at this, I didn’t do a good job at it and I focused more on the sport and kind of let school go down a little, but I hope that I’m doing it better now. I’m trying my best and I think that is the right path of being a student-athlete. (Student-athletes) are required to do well in all three areas of their lives. You have to be a nice person, social, you have to do well in school as well as in your sport, and most people don’t have to do that. I think it’s an advantage and it’s also a disadvantage but at the end it’s worth it.”

How is your relationship with your teammates?

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ON DECK

MEN’S BASEBALL
vs. St. Thomas
April 17 6 p.m.
NSU Baseball Complex
vs. Eckerd
April 20 6 p.m.
NSU Baseball Complex
vs. Eckerd (DH)
April 21 1 & 4 p.m.
NSU Baseball Complex

MEN’S GOLF
vs. 2018 SSC Championship
April 22-24
Grande Oaks Golf Club,
Davie, Fla.

WOMEN’S SOFTBALL
vs. Palm Beach Atlantic
April 20 6 p.m.
Ad Griffin
vs. Palm Beach Atlantic (DH)
April 21 1 & 3 p.m.
Ad Griffin
Women’s Tennis
vs. Sunshine State
Conference Championship
April 19-21

WOMEN’S GOLF
vs. 2018 SSC Championship
April 22-24
Grande Oaks Golf Club,
Davie, Fla.

WOMEN’S TENNIS
April 19-21
Conference Championship
vs. Sunshine State

TRACK & FIELD
@Peach Belt Conference Championship
April 19-21
Pembroke, N.C.

WOMEN’S ROWING
@Sira Regatta
April 20-22
Oak Ridge, Tenn.

WOMEN’S TENNIS
vs. Sunshine State
Conference Championship
April 19-21
Brandonton, Fla.

ON THE BENCH:
Quick, someone help Bengals owner Mike Brown find his moral compass
By: Michaela Greer
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The Cincinnati Bengals have not had a post- season playoff victory in 26 years. On April 11, the team’s owner, Mike Brown, had a chance to possibly shift the tides if he agreed to sign strong safety Eric Reid. Before closing on a deal with the free agent safety, Brown felt it necessary to hold a private meeting to vet the team’s newest prospect. Given the team’s penchant for causing trouble, it was understandable at first why Brown might have wanted to speak with Reid. But, what doesn’t make sense is what Pro Football Talk’s Mike Florio reported as the red flag for Brown: the athlete’s inability to promise that he would never kneel during the national anthem.

According to the NY Daily News, 26-year- old Reid made the Pro Bowl in 2013 and has racked up “10 interceptions, 36 pass defenses, 264 tackles, two forced fumbles and three fumble recoveries” over the span of his five- season professional career. Yet, the Bengals owner would not dream of signing the stellar athlete unless Brown made a commitment not to participate in another demonstration, as he had previously done while playing with the 49ers, alongside former teammate Colin Kaepernick, and throughout much of 2017.

“It’s interesting that this was seemingly the only tre that Brown had when considering recruiting a player to a team which, according to the Bleacher Report, has seen more than 32 of its players arrested between 2000 and 2011. For instance, according to ESPN, Bengals cornerback Adam “Pacman” Jones was arrested twice in 2013 on domestic violence charges, and in 2007 he was involved in an altercation in a Las Vegas strip club that left a man paralyzed from the waist down. Wide receiver Chris Henry was arrested six times in a span of three months for assault, drunk driving, and drug and gun charges before his death in 2009. Last year, Brown welcomed Joe Mixon to the team, despite having been suspended in 2014 by University of Oklahoma for punching a woman so hard that he broke the bones in her face.

Yet, I can’t recall hearing of a single instance when Brown called for a private meeting to meet with Jones, Mixon or Henry. Somehow, to Brown, assault, drunk driving and abuse aren’t as alarming as peaceful protests against the acts of violence that have plagued American society. Apparently, none of these acts committed by his players were red flags worthy of a private discussion and point-blank questions.

Brown, if you’re going to start taking an interest in the actions of NFL athletes, might I suggest that you first pull the plank out of your own player’s eyes? How are you even leading a team when you can’t find your own compass? My opinion: Throw the whole management away.

WOMEN’S SOFTBALL
April 6-7
vs. Florida Tech
Three losses

Women’s Golf
Ends with third place

Men’s Baseball
The Sharks took home a victory against Saint Leo on April 6, which increased their winning streak to nine straight. Redshirt senior Andrew Liberty stole the show as they defeated the Lions with a score of 10-6. Liberty hit for the cycle alongside former teammate Colin Kaepernick, previously done while playing with the 49ers, participate in another demonstration, as he had previously done while playing with the #49ers, alongside former teammate Colin Kaepernick, and throughout much of 2017.

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April 22 is Earth Day, which is important for several reasons. For many, the sole purpose of this day is to seemingly remind them about the harmful impacts a variety of practices can have on their health. From sensationalized advertisements about cancer-causing pollutants, to statistics about food waste and crops dying, a lot of what we tend to focus on about Earth Day has one specific interest group: us. That isn’t ridiculous, of course, as we tend to care about things in our own lives before looking at the broader perspective, and it is important for us to understand how polluting our environment can hurt us. But this selfishness isn’t going to be helpful in the long run, both to the earth and all of its other inhabitants.

Humans are selfish creatures. To some extent, this is necessary for us if we are to hold our spot as the dominant intelligent species on this planet. We fill in wetlands to build neighborhoods, slash and burn acres of forests, drill for fossil fuels and coral animals into tiny cages to provide us with food to eat. All of these have massive environmental impacts, yet we continue to practice them daily. Why? Because we can’t see it or feel it harming us as we reap profits.

Activities that explicitly harm us are what worry people. When we literally used hairpray like there was no tomorrow back in the ’80s, we soon learned about the impacts of volatile organic compounds and chlorofluorocarbons like aerosols on our health, and changed the problematic formulas. The study on the use of even chemicals: Mario Molina and F. Sherwood Rowland a Nobel Prize, according to Understanding Science, University of Berkeley. When it was revealed that these chemicals caused climate change, it was exposed to the public that it could cause cancer, cataracts and immune problems. Suddenly the ingredients, and the public’s opinion on hairspray, was drastically altered.

But why do things need to be put into the context of human harm before we care about it? With deforestation, entire forests are destroyed for the creation of products like paper, palm oil or towels, which benefit our daily lives. The destruction, however, doesn’t benefit the environment. When rainforests are cleared using slash and burn techniques to be utilized for agriculture, the land is only successful for a few seasons, because the nutrients in these natural ecosystems are trapped in the foliage, not the soil. In addition, our habits can have horrific and unpredictable impacts on animal life.

In the case of the palm oil industry, it is estimated that 90 percent of orangutans’ habitats have been destroyed over the past 20 years due to the harvesting of this ingredient, according to a study to Say No to Palm Oil. Unfortunately for orangutans, humans really like peanut butter with palm oil, which gives it the classic, creamy texture we’re all used to, even though it can be made without it. Thus, because of this preference, we continue to harm orangutans and their habitat for our benefit.

Another example is that of microplastics. Microplastics are small particles of plastic that may come from the breaking down of bottles, exfoliating beads in facial cleaners and even glitters, among other things. More recently in the news, the use of microplastics has been scrutinized for its damaging impacts on marine ecosystems. We were aware that the plastic we use on a daily basis can get washed into the ocean and stay there for hundreds of years, and it should be common sense that this can harm fish and other marine life. However, it wasn’t until scientists found that humans have begun ingesting these particles that it became a problem. Why wasn’t the fact that it kills animals, ruins diverse and unique ecosystems and pollutes our water even enough to convince the majority of our population that microplastics are bad?

Of course, not everyone out there is oblivious to environment issues but the firepower of those who are just isn’t enough. Plenty of well-informed people make educate decisions about their habits and even dedicate their lives to protecting the environment, but unfortunately for Earth, these people cannot save the planet without global support. We as a species need to be more aware of life around us as we realize that our selfish practices are ruining our planet, whether we can feel it or not.

So why are brands pushing such negative press on themselves? The New York Times found that H&M has racked up $4.3 billion in unsold products, according to their most recent quarterly report. With that much product left on the cutting room floor, so to speak, it can’t be good. This may be why the company is desperately trying to create some buzz and sell something with a scandal. As the adage says, “Any press is good press.”

The fast-fashion industry is already in a lot of hot water and now, with this seemingly-framed marketing campaign, it seems like they are trying to solve this situation with bad press. If these controversies are generated on purpose, that is just sick and sad.

Opinions

Our selfishness is ruining our planet

By: Madelyn Rinka
News Editor

H&M, Forever 21 and Urban Outfitters have
the same twisted agenda

By: Christina McLaughlin
Opinions Editor

After my most recent trip to the mall where I scoured the aisles of the largest, mainly female targeted fashion brands like H&M, Forever 21 and Urban Outfitters, there seems to be a common trend. Major controversies within the fashion industry involving racism,disastrous messages and unethical slogans have all been featured in their clothing.

In 2014, Urban Outfitters found itself extremely controversial “vintage” Kent State University sweatshirt featuring poorly-chosen extremely distasteful “vintage” Kent State messages and unethical slogans have all been 21 and Urban Outfitters, there seems to be a targeted fashion brands like H&M, Forever 21 and Urban Outfitters have continue to practice them daily. Why? Because our selfishness is ruining our planet.

Students can be our next mechanic, physicist or “more athletic” classmates? Schools need to or “more athletic” classmates? Schools need to give every student information to make educated decisions about affordable schools, scholarships, college majors and alternative possibilities. Most importantly, there needs to be a better guidance team, because one to two people cannot help hundreds to thousands of students. Florida needs to invest in the education system, and the best way to start is providing more guidance to the masses. More with educational gaps between family generations and less of a contribution.

Florida’s public education system: Is it an equal playing field?

By: Mykella Mitchell
Contributing Writer

Education is the racetrack of life, and every student is running. As one becomes harder the more hurdles are placed on the track, but the chance of crossing the finish line remains. In order to succeed, some guidance is essential, but the track is so packed with students and other tasks? As a runner with little-to-no coaching, crossing that finish line has become more difficult. This intriguing struggle is what it is like for everyday students in Florida; while some are given guidance, others are not, and are forced to complete this educational journey alone.

According to the United States Census Bureau, minorities comprise 47.3 percent of Florida’s population compared to a national average of 40.9 percent. Minorities are more likely to come from families without a college education and lower income than their white counterparts. Due to this and various other factors, guidance is vital to high school students as college preparations are an important part of their lives. But more often than not, students feel exposed and alone during college preparation. There can be various resources at student’s disposal, except for the next hurdle. More often than not, the masses. Schools are often only concerned with a particular group of students, the top percent or the profitable jocks propelling the sports funding and courtyard recognition. Not every student will excel academically or athletically, but they still have the potential to achieve great things. It becomes harder for these students to meet the next hurdle of life. More than 10,000 receive proper guidance and the rest are relying on the internet and college admission offices. As a student who is the product of public school system, I have seen the best and worst of both worlds. I understand the importance of having a relationship with your high school guidance counselor. Due to a lack of time, many students feel their guidance counselor has not helped them enough, and in an area with a lot of diversity how are schools supposed to help potential first-generation college students or low-income students who aren’t as “extraordinary” as the top 10 percent or the athletic stars? To prove more important is critical, and with education always pushed but rarely explained, how are we supposed to even the playing field? More funding and college access programs are available, but how can one access if all the information is provided to “more intelligent” or “more athletic” classmates? Schools need to the all-too-prevalent $1 hand sanitizer found in the check-out aisle.

So why are brands pushing such negative press on themselves? The New York Times found that H&M has racked up $4.3 billion in unsold products, according to their most recent quarterly report. With that much product left on the cutting room floor, so to speak, it can’t be good. This may be why the company is desperately trying to create some buzz and sell something with a scandal. As the adage says, “Any press is good press.”

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The fast-fashion industry is already in a lot of hot water and now, with this seemingly-framed marketing campaign, it seems like they are trying to solve this situation with bad press. If these controversies are generated on purpose, that is just sick and sad.
Twenty-two-year-old Kelly Nicholas, a thought-to-be frequent flyer in linguistic hyperbole, exclaimed that after her phone fell into the water during a seaward selfie, she “literally died.” Intellectuals who were present simultaneously rolled their eyes at the reckless disregard for the literal meaning of the word, when closer inspection revealed that Nicholas was no longer performing the basic metabolic activities necessary for life.

“One minute I’m turning the camera to capture my best angles with a glimpse of the somewhat less attractive seashore behind me, and then all of a sudden I’m being taken on a date or whatever down some Acheron river,” the ghost of Nicholas explained. “Literally all I wanted to do was take one decent picture in my new Victoria’s Secret bikini and maybe get a few emojis with heart eyes thrown around.”

“This post means everything because Mark [her crush] liked two of my pictures in a row and if he double-tapped my selfie flush with ripe melons, it would be a definite sign he’s into me. Mark, if you’re reading this, Sofia edited her Instagram pictures and she’s not even good at it. Also, one of the brothers in Phi Kappa Psi overheard one of her sorority sisters talking to her mom’s friend about her and she said that Sofia had two back-to-back urinary tract infections.”

Nicholas is not the only victim of this emerging epidemic. People everywhere between the ages of 16 and 24 are metaphorically dropping like flies. A recent poll revealed that about 67 percent of females were female. In 100 percent of the recorded incidents involving variations of “I’m literally dead,” the victims were relatively basic compared to their counterparts. In cases where the phrase was preceded by the words, “Oh my god!” the death was longer and more excruciating. Not surprisingly, abbreviating to OMG increased the suffering pain at least six fold.

Social scientists are puzzled by this ubiquitous phenomenon but also collectively assert that no efforts should be made to stop it.

Don’t buy into the misconceptions of marijuana

By: Samantha Villarreal
Contributing Writer

The belief that marijuana will kill you

According to the DEA, “No deaths from overdose of marijuana have been reported,” in their 2017 Drugs of Abuse Guide. Since there haven’t been any evidence proving that someone died from smoking too much, people should realize that while they can overdose, meaning smoking more than your body can handle, but not necessarily die.

Synthetic weed is better for you

Synthetic weed, also known as K2 or SPICE, is horrible. According to U.S. News, “Synthetic marijuana can be made with nearly 100 different chemicals that are often sprayed onto dried, shredded plant material.” It’s known to be cheaper than marijuana but it’s a man-made drug with chemicals that causes lethal harm to the body. The physical traits are completely different from the plant.

Cheaper is better

Absolutely not. According to U.S. News, “K2,” or synthetic marijuana, can be bought for as little as $5. Always buy and consume from dispensaries they have full information on the potency of the plant and can provide a detailed description of choices and varieties.

During the last few weeks of my friend’s dad being in hospice, the best pain reliever he took turned out to be medical marijuana. People have moved to Colorado so their children can be treated for epilepsy and other neurological conditions with medical marijuana. Even Whoopi Goldberg partnered with Maya Elisabeth, founder of Om Edibles, to create a whole healing line based on medicinal products for women’s menstrual cycles. There are multiple uses to cannabis, as it helps alleviate pain and treat disorders. It’s always best to research and inform yourself on the topic. Thinking back to those weed PSA commercials with the defined girl on the couch, those exaggerations about “what will happen when you smoke pot” are just unrealistic. Educate yourself for higher learning — pun intended.

Girls and guys can be friends no problem... until there’s a problem

By: Siena Berardi
Contributing Writer

Is there really a way for girl-guy relationships to be completely platonic? Everyone I talk to seems to be locked in on the idea that these relationships don’t work out. It’s really hard to decipher someone else’s thoughts and feelings when we try our best to act casual and pay no mind to them. We think that if we just keep quiet and not talk about the specifics, we’ll be good. But there will always be that underlying “what if...” A friendship may start out because one of the two individuals had feelings and then squashed them, or it started out friendly and ended in a more serious relationship. It depends on the people, the circumstances and the age of the people involved. I just have a hard time coming to terms with the idea that girl-guy friendships are a lost cause.

NSU students are opinionated about all kinds of things, from universal social issues to NSU-specific concerns. Sometimes, however, we Sharks just need to rant about the smaller things in life to let off some steam. In this column, The Current asks: water your thoughts?

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There is a stigma that claims that girls and guys can’t be friends without getting romantically involved. I don’t believe this to be true. Over the years, I have and have had many friendships with guys without finding myself in romantic relationships with them. I’m the type of person who makes friends with everyone so I understand how sometimes the lines can get blurred. It annoys me when people say, “You can’t be friends with a guy without the friendship inevitably getting weird.”

“Literally” deserves second look

New linguistic study reveals that use of “literally” here.

Recently, a study has shown that the popular slang “literally” deserves a second look. It’s known to be a hyperbole, exclaimed that after her phone fell into the water during a seaward selfie, she “literally died.” Intellectuals who were present simultaneously rolled their eyes at the reckless disregard for the literal meaning of the word, when closer inspection revealed that Nicholas was no longer performing the basic metabolic activities necessary for life.

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Thursday: 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Saturday: 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
refdesk@nova.edu
954-262-4613

We’ll Help you survive exams!

2018 SHARK SURVIVAL WEEKS

Monday - Friday
7:30am - 8:30pm

Saturday
7:30am - 2:00pm

DeSantos Building